Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 14 Dec 2022 until 23:59 on Thursday 15 Dec 2022

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 13 Dec 2022 at 15:52 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High confidence for a continuation of very cold northerly weather with frequent snow showers in the north until Thursday, drier further south. Turning brighter on Thursday but remaining cold. Lower confidence for a change in conditions towards the weekend with a milder interlude of weather and some snowmelt at lower levels.

Headline for Wednesday 14 Dec 2022: Occasional snow showers in the north, bitterly cold in strong northerly winds.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 14 Dec 2022

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Medium Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
Low Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light snow showers (night)	Light snow showers (night)	Light snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers	Light snow showers	Sunny intervals	Heavy snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers (night)
Precipitation probability							
40%	40%	40%	40%	40%	30%	30%	30%

Forecast for Wednesday 14 Dec 2022

Weather: Frequent snow showers expected overnight for more northern ranges and continuing during the day, a few bright or sunny spells in places but showers may band into longer spells at times. Further south towards Glen Shiel and Glen Affric will be dry with a few brighter spells. With strong northerly winds blizzard conditions are a possibility in the north and a severe wind chill is expected. Showers becoming heavier and more frequent again in the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 50% low cloud around showers, best chance of brighter conditions for southern ranges.

Low cloud and visibility: Scattered or broken cloud layers above 400m can be expected for areas in the north around Torridon and Caithness hills in wintery showers, further west and south cloud bases will be scattered above 700m in any showers. Visibility will be good outwith showers but turn very poor in wintery showers with the potential for whiteout conditions in heavy showers, full winter clothing is advisable and good navigation equipment.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Forecast for Wednesday 14 Dec 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	27/33 N	26/33 N	23/29 N	25/32 N	20/27 N	22/30 NW	25/34 NW	28/37 NW	24/32 NW
900	24/30 N	24/31 N	19/25 N	22/29 N	17/24 N	20/28 NW	23/33 NW	26/36 NW	23/31 NW
600	15/20 N	14/20 N	11/17 N	12/19 N	12/18 N	13/21 NW	15/25 NW	16/26 NW	14/23 NW
300	4/22 N	3/22 N	3/18 N	4/21 N	3/18 N	5/21 NW	7/26 NW	8/28 N	7/24 NW
Glen	8/21 NE	8/20 NE	7/17 NE	7/18 N	8/18 N	8/19 N	12/26 N	10/23 N	11/24 N

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	-8/-18	-9/-18	-9/-18	-8/-18	-8/-16	-7/-16	-7/-16	-6/-15	-6/-14
900	-7/-17	-8/-17	-8/-17	-7/-16	-7/-15	-6/-14	-6/-15	-6/-14	-5/-13
600	-5/-12	-6/-12	-6/-12	-5/-12	-4/-10	-4/-11	-4/-10	-3/-10	-3/-9
300	-2/-5	-3/-6	-4/-7	-3/-6	-3/-6	-2/-5	-2/-6	-1/-5	-1/-5
Glen	-0/-4	-1/-5	-1/-4	-1/-4	0/-3	1/-2	2/-3	2/-2	2/-2
Freezing Level*	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	00m	100m	200m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Severe wind chill can be expected and blizzards are a possibility for norther ranges like Ben Hope, serious winter conditions on the mountains with snow showers at all levels. Strongest gusts likely around snow showers.

Forecast for Thursday 15 Dec 2022

Weather: Wintery showers continuing on Thursday morning in the north but showers tending to die out in the afternoon with some bright or sunny spells, some mist and fog forming in prone spots as winds ease later in the day. Severe wind chill continuing.

Maximum wind: Northerly turning northwesterly 15 gusting 25 mph, easing to southwesterly 10mph later.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 60% improving to 80% later as showers ease, however hill fog may become extensive later.

Low cloud and visibility: Scattered low cloud above 500m in showers especially around the Caithness hills and Ben Assynt, patchier further south where there will be less showers. Visibility good outwith showers but becoming poor or very poor in wintery showers at times. Visibility becoming less than 1km in hill fog later.

Temperature: **Glens:** Minus 8 Celsius rising to plus 1 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 6 Celsius.
Freezing level: 100m rising to 400m for a time.

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